Volume 1, Number 4 Fall/Winter 1989

MUNITIMES

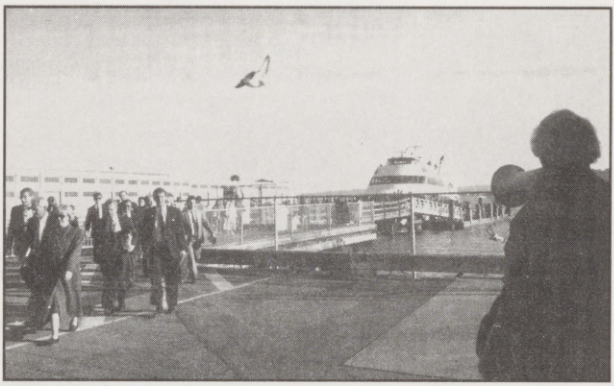

Photo: Carmen Magana

Muni assissting ferry passengers after the quake.

Regional Transit Passes

Earthquake Spurs Cooperation

In the wake of the transportation nightmare caused by the October 17th earthquake, the Bay Area's transit agencies have rallied together to make public transit easier for passengers who must use more than one system to get to work. Here's a look at what has evolved.

AC/BART PLUS TICKET: AC Transit, BART and Muni have agreed to extend the AC/BART PLUS ticket for use on Muni. Each ticket is good for a semi-monthly period — either from the 1st through the 15th of the month, or from the 16th to the end of the month. The ticket comes in several different prices depending upon the buyer's need for BART services. For Muni, passengers need only show their valid ticket to a Muni operator or Muni Metro station agent, who will honor it as if it were one of Muni's passes. The pass is available on a temporary, emergency basis for three months. **RED AND WHITE FERRY:** Ferry passengers may now use their $5 round trip tickets on the Red

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Dear Rider,

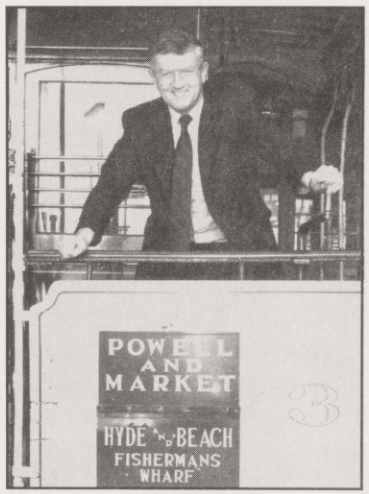

Photo: Bill Owyang

On October 17th, our lives and perceptions about living in the Bay Area were changed irrevocably by the 7.1 earthquake that jolted us at 5:04 p.m. Although the loss of life and property cannot be underestimated, we can at least be thankful that the damage and injuries were not greater and rejoice in the community spirit that united us in a crisis.

While transportation problems centered primarily on the commute to and from the East Bay, I am very proud of Muni's post-quake performance in San Francisco. Most outstanding were the individual courage and dedication shown by our many operators, maintenance personnel, supervisors and managers who put professional concerns above personal ones.

LRV and trolley coach operators stood by their darkened vehicles most of the first night. Other employees directed traffic at intersections, evacuated trains from tunnels and helped San Franciscans get home without knowing if their own families were safe. Others fixed equipment in the dark, delivered fuel to emergency departments and helped at the Marina fire.

With hard work and planning, Muni employees joined the ranks of countless other people who showed the nation and the world what being a resident of the Bay Area is all about.

Sincerely,
William Stead,
General Manager

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ms. Milner,

Are there any products which will remove graffiti that could be used by citizen volunteers without special protective equipment. I'm only on Metro a few minutes a day and if I and similarly inclined fellow passengers could spend that time cleaning up some of the mess, we could get a lot accomplished.

How about it, Muni Times. A bit of moral and technical leadership please.

Sincerely,
Richard Gorin

Dear Mr. Gorin,

If we had more enterprising passengers like you, graffiti would indeed cease to be a problem. I've consulted our Graffiti Prevention Manager Barbara Conway who informs me that the kinds of chemicals required to remove graffiti make it unsafe to clean vehicles when they are occupied and certainly require protective clothing. However, if you or any other passengers would like to join our volunteer efforts to eradicate graffiti, please call Conway at 923-6265 to find out out how can help. And thank you very much for your thoughtful idea.

Sincerely,
Anne Milner
Editor

Rules of the Ride

Request stops well in advance. Always exit through the rear door, making it easier for others to board through the front. Make sure that the operator has seen you crossing in front of the vehicle on the street. Do not smoke, eat drink, litter or play sound equipment. Violators are subject to a fine under State Penal Code Section 640.

PCC Cars

They're Making a Comeback!

Cars like the one pictured above in Dolores Park used to run regularly on Muni's five streetcar lines until 1982 when they were retired. And you may occasionally see one on Market Street during the summer months when Muni's Historic Trolley Festival is in gear. But now Muni has plans to take 20 PCC cars out of mothballs and have them restored for full- time operation.

Initially l2 cars will be rehabilitated at a cost of $5.2 million for use on the F-Market line

PCC's -- A thing of the future.

on the surface of Market Street from Castro to the Embarcadero. Service using the old PCC cars will begin in 1991. In 1992, service will be extended on a new Embarcadero streetcar line which will run along the Embarcadero to Fisherman's Wharf.

Muni expects to select a consultant to write specifications for this project in December and to have awarded a contract for rebuilding the cars by next summer. It's happy news for all of us who've missed the PCC cars over the past seven years.

On the Move

Regional Transit Guide - Buy One Now!

If ever there was a time for Bay Area residents to get out of their cars and start relying regularly on public transit, this is it. And to make that an easier option, The Regional Transit Guide, published by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), is just the book you'll need.

MTC describes the Guide as "Your official 1990 how-to-get-there manual for easy riding on the Bay Area's public transit network." The booklet, now in its third edition, is designed to answer a number of questions: Can I get there on transit? Which systems and lines will I use?

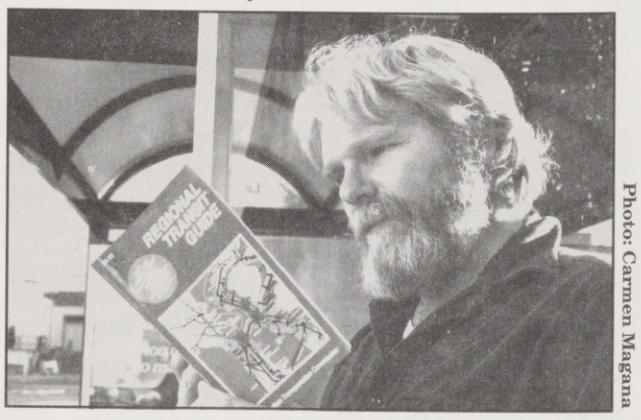

Photo: Carmen Magana

Where will I transfer? How often do the buses/trains/ferries run? How much will it cost? Where can I get more information?

Information on all the Bay Area's transit operators is compiled for easy reading and understanding. Included are the major carriers — Muni, AC Transit, BART, Caltrain, Central Contra Costa County Connection, Golden Gate Transit, SamTrans, and Santa Clara County Transit — as well as 100 smaller agencies in nearby counties.

Please buy your Regional Transit Guide right away. It costs $3.95 and is available from Bay Area bookstores and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, 464-7700.

Passenger Profile

NAME: Boaz Nathaniel Gurdin
NEIGHBORHOOD: Sunset
LINES USUALLY TRAVELED: 7l-Noriega, 29-Sunset, N-Judah, 48- Quintara-24th Street, 66-Quintara, 38-Geary
COMMENTS: Six-year-old Boaz is a Muni fan from way back. His family does not own a car, so he takes Muni wherever he goes with his mother and father. He is so taken with Muni that last year for Halloween, he won an award at his school, Robert Louis Stevenson, for his costume as a Muni repairmen (pictured above). And his mother tells us that for a long time he wanted to be a Muni bus driver when he grows up. This year for Halloween, he was a physician, however, so his aspirations may have changed. Boaz says that the "fantastic thing about riding buses — especially the 38-Geary — is that if you miss one, another one always comes along." Boaz's mother adds that whenever out-of-town guests visit, it's Boaz who tells them about Muni and how great it is.

It just goes to show that when it comes to being a transit buff, age is no factor.

Did You Know

Muni ranks eighth in the nation as far as the total number of passenger trips it makes annually. That's according to the 1989 Transit Fact Book of the American Public Transit Association (APTA). Here are some other of Muni's national "rankings" according to APTA. Passenger Trips

	Nat'l Rank	% of Nat'l Total
Motor Bus	9	1.7%
Trolley Bus	1	71.2%
Light Rail	2	25.6%
Cable Car	1	100%

Behind the Scenes

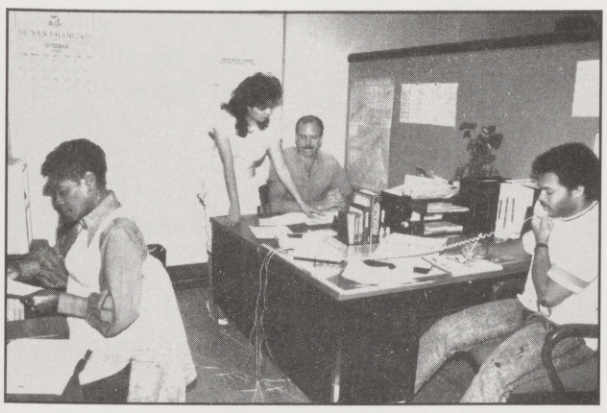

Photo: Carmen Magana

Pictured above is Muni's Passenger Service Office where anywhere from two to five clerks process complaints and commendations from passengers on any given weekday.

Here's how it works. If you have complaints or praises about any aspect of Muni, you may call Passenger Service at 923-6164 or write a letter to Passenger Service, Muni, 949 Presidio Avenue, SF 94ll5. Clerks will take your call or letter and then refer the complaint or commendation to the appropriate supervisor or Division Manager. Muni has six divisions to which operators are assigned. The manager for a particular division will follow through on complaints or commendations about operator conduct or service. You will receive a postcard acknowledging receipt of your comments until the Division Manager has investigated the matter more thoroughly. He will then respond to you directly by letter.

Maria Williams, Manager of Passenger Service, acknowledges it can sometimes be a difficult place to work because of disgruntled passengers venting their anger on clerks who answer the phone. So if you have a complaint or commendation to make, by all means, call Passenger Service. But remember, the clerks are there to listen and see to it that your comments are channeled to the appropriate area. Please treat them with respect. They are trained to help you as well as they can.

Photo: Carmen Magana

Cable Car Barn for Rent

Corporate party-givers jump at the chance.

It may be a well-kept secret that's fast becoming public. If your business or corporation wants to throw a large party, there's no better place than the Cable Car Barn and Museum at Washington and Mason for an authentic San Francisco fete.

The Barn and Museum can hold 800 people for a reception or 400 for a sit-down dinner on any evening between 5 and 10 p.m. The corporate rental fee is $850 plus a request for a $1000 donation to Muni's Awards Program, as well as a $500 refundable cleaning deposit. In addition, $l million liability insurance coverage is required naming the City of San Francisco and the Historical Locomotive Society, which leases the Museum, as co-insureds.

Eastman Kodak of Rochester, New York, and Security Pacific Bank are among the corporations that have already thrown parties at the Cable Car Barn. If your corporation is interested in taking advantage of this unique space, call Jim Tomes at Muni at 923-6202 for additional details and requirements. Make your plans well in advance as you'll need two to three weeks to arrange everything.

A Blast from the Past

A bit of transit history

After the 1906 earthquake, San Francisco's transit system was devastated. Although the United Railroad's (URR) Fillmore and 16th Street streetcar line (the precursor of the present-day 22 Fillmore line) was back in operation after only a few days, it took many months for full transit service to resume. The Fillmore streetcar line influenced development of that street as a main shopping area.

The aftermath of the earthquake was a great opportunity for electrification — many of the cable lines and all of the horsecar lines were converted to electricity. The URR obtained a permit to install overhead wires on Market and Sutter Streets, but not without a charge of graft in connection with the Board of Supervisors' granting of the permit, one of the many charges of corruption against the city's government under the regime of "Boss" Abe Ruef.

MTC Honors Muni

Muni Times highlighted.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Bay Area's regional transit funding organization, handed Muni an Award of Merit at its annual 1989 Awards Ceremony last month. The award spotlighted Muni's Community Affairs Department for an exceptional job of marketing public transit and improving responsiveness to the public in San Francisco.

In particular, MTC cited the Muni Times for helping to promote better understanding of public transit.

Also receiving accolades were Muni's "Tours of Discovery" booklet, a brochure instructing passengers on how to take Muni to points of interest in San Francisco, and the "Muni Passport," which provides one- and three-day passes for unlimited rides on all of Muni's regularly scheduled service. We're happy to say we're proud of ourselves!

Dunn on Muni

by louis dunn

BAH! HUMBUG! IT TAKES ME 25 MINUTES TO GET DOWNTOWN ON THE BUS
HOW LONG TO FIND A PARKING PLACE?
UH, LET'S SEE— ON A GOOD DAY, HMM..
AND IT ONLY TAKES 15 MINUTES IN A CAR
?
40 MINUTES
AND DON'T FORGET THE CAB RIDE FROM THE PARKING PLACE....

(D)

What is This Thing?

You might be surprised.

Photo: Carmen Magana

You may have wondered what this kiosk is at the top of the Powell/California intersection. Many people think it's a Muni Information Booth, and while Muni staff inside the kiosk are always happy to give out information, that's not its main purpose.

The kiosk is actually a Cable Car Signal Booth that houses a manually operated traffic control system for cable cars only. Cable cars from the California line and those from the Powell line intersect at the top of the hill necessitating a signal system to give one line the right of way. The signals, although similar to regular vehicular traffic signals, are called crossbucks and are indicated by red and green crosses. Some of them are placed on regular traffic light poles, but they are not be be confused with regular traffic lights. A green or red X means go and stop only for cable cars — not for regular vehicular traffic.

Credits

MUNI TIMES is published by the Community Affairs Department of the Municipal Railway for the passengers of Muni. Comments and suggestions may be sent to the Muni Times, Room 222, 949 Presidio Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115.
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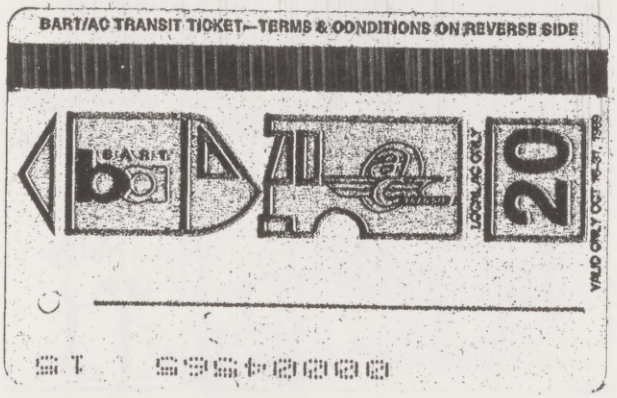
and White Fleet from Richmond, Berkeley, Alameda and Oakland to ride free on AC Transit and Muni buses to make bus connections to and from the ferries on both sides of the Bay. **GOLDEN GATE FERRY:** Golden Gate Ferry passengers will be issued a free transfer good for use on any Muni vehicle to and from the Ferry Terminal. **VALLEJO FERRY:** The Vallejo Ferry's monthly pass is also good for use on all Muni vehicles. **CALTRAIN/FAST PASS:** Although the earthquake had nothing to do with this arrangement, Muni's Fast Pass will be accepted for use on Caltrain within the San Francisco city limits starting on December 1st.

Muni passengers riding Caltrain to and from the Peninsula may use their Fast Passes between the Bayshore, Paul Avenue, 22nd Street and Fourth and Townsend Stations only.

These agreements among Bay Area transit agencies symbolize the ever-growing cooperation necessary to maintain a workable regional public transit system, particularly in major crises. Although all agreements, with the exception of Caltrain and the Vallejo Ferry, are on a temporary basis, Muni hopes to be able to extend them permanently.

For details on where to obtain the various passes or other questions, please call Muni at 673-Muni; BART at 788-BART or 465-BART; AC Transit at 839-2882; Golden Gate Transit at 332-6600 or 453-2100; the Red and White Fleet at 546-2800; the Vallejo Ferry at 1-707-643-3779; and Caltrain at 495-4546.



BART / AC Transit Pass